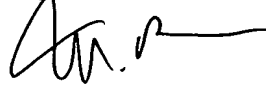


REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, the Abstract and specification are replaced with an amended Abstract and a substitute specification. Claims 1-8 are amended, claims 9-14 are added and four drawing replacement sheets are included.

Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Michael Britton
Registration No. 47,260

JAO:MB/al

Attachments:

Amended Abstract
Substitute Specification
Marked-up Copy of Specification
Replacement Sheets (Figs. 3, 4, 6 and 9)

Date: May 21, 2004

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